



The history of "VIC VIPER"

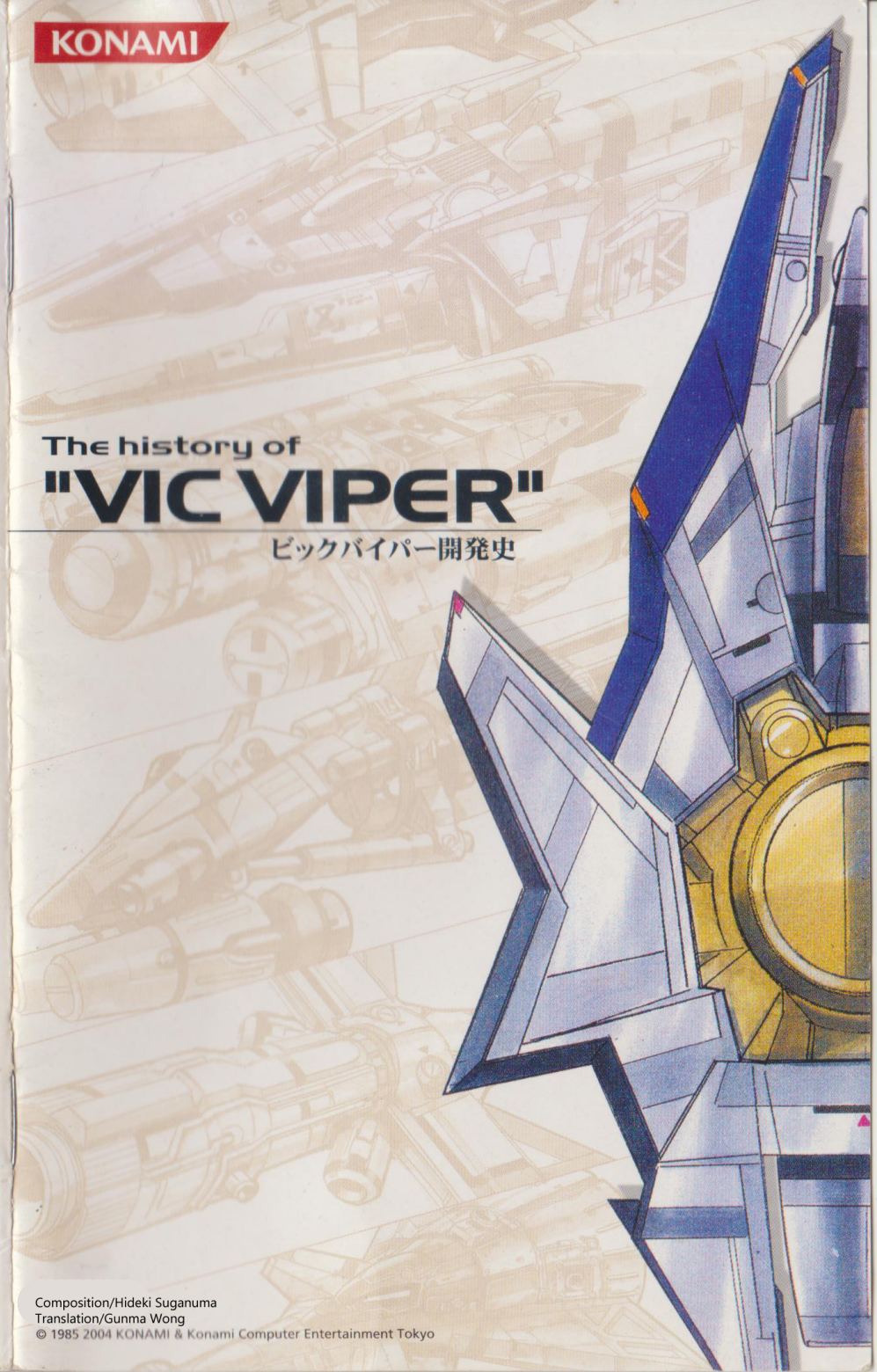
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WW176-J1(SLPM 62462)

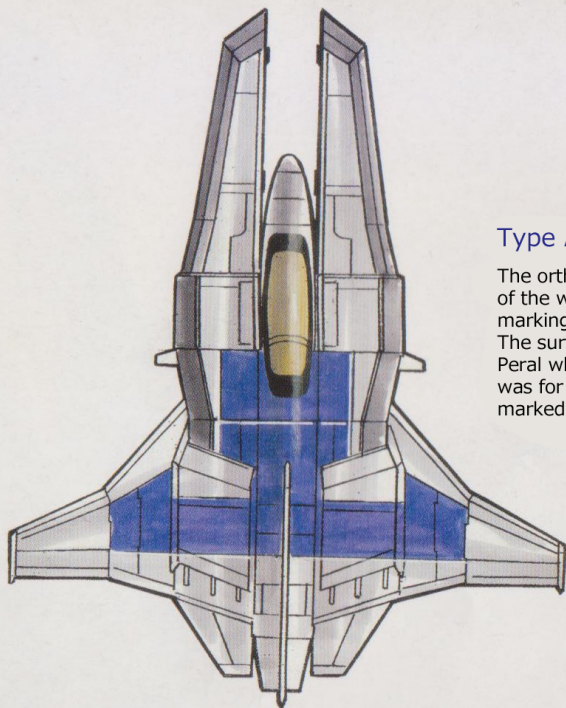
KONAMI

The history of
"VIC VIPER"

ビックバイパー開発史



Composition/Hideki Suganuma
Translation/Gunma Wong
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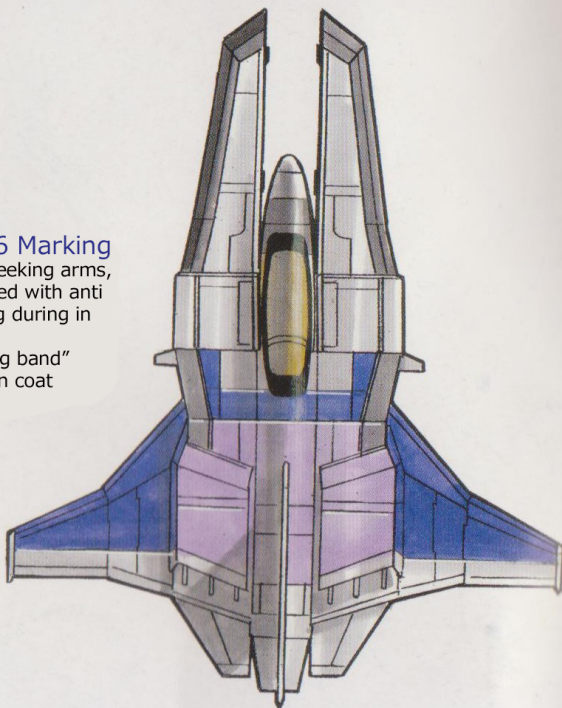


Type A113 Marking

The orthodox unit produced during the first year of the war, this is one of the example of the marking scheme.

The surface of combine alloy was covered with Peral white optic reflection paints. The blue area was for the "friend-foe marking band", also marked with squadron, aircraft code, etc.

The marking scheme of mass produced Vic Viper



Type 116 Marking

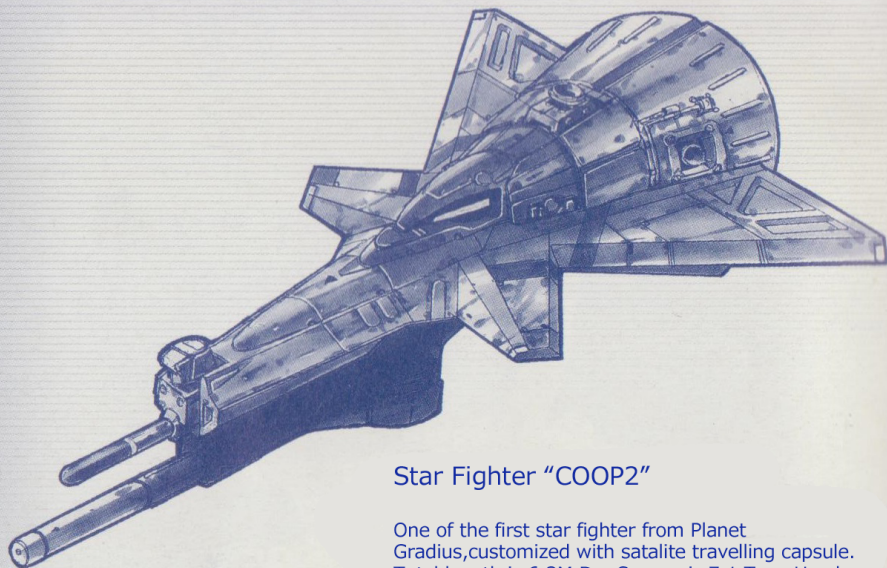
In order to resist the enemy's heat seeking arms, the center rear of the craft was painted with anti heat pearl paints as the later marking during in the war.

The position of the "friend-foe marking band" had changed with anti-glare reflection coat painted on the nose.



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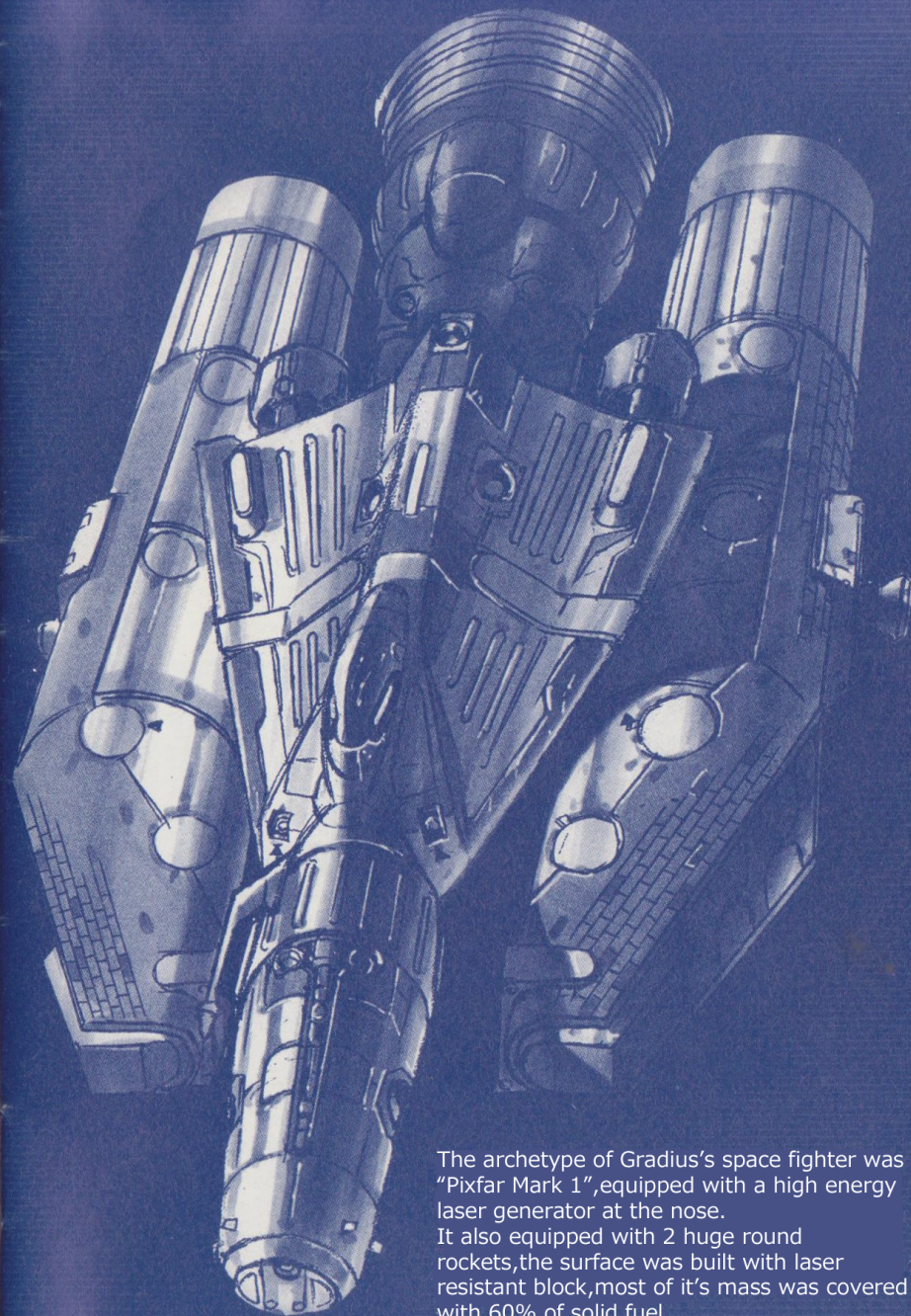


Star Fighter "COOP2"

One of the first star fighter from Planet Gradius, customized with satellite travelling capsule. Total length is 6.2M, Dry Season is 7.1 Tons, Head equiped the batteries of the laser generator

The first satellite of Planet Gradius-"Boswell" was far from 480000 KM, so the Gradians develops a tiny, 2 seated travel pod in order to travel to "Boswell". It is developed simply by Gradius space department, by using liquid hydrogen as main fuel, coded name as "COOP1". The astronauts were shocked with the fact that "Boswell"s covered with radio signal, the astronaut from Planet Latis came to "Boswell" in order to confirm there was a civilization existed. The Gradius united government accepted the fact and ordered space department to develop a armed space fighter. 4 months after the landing to "Boswell", a customized "COOP1" equipped with the batteries for the laser generator and a rangefinder for aiming, single seated armed space fighter-"COOP2" was developed, deployed several units around the orbit of "Boswell", can fire laser about 10 times or above, can be travel around within 6 hours. Now armed space fighter of Planet Gradius EXISTS! Unfortunately, "Boswell" was the aim of the ownership of a arment race between Planet Gradius and Planet Latis.

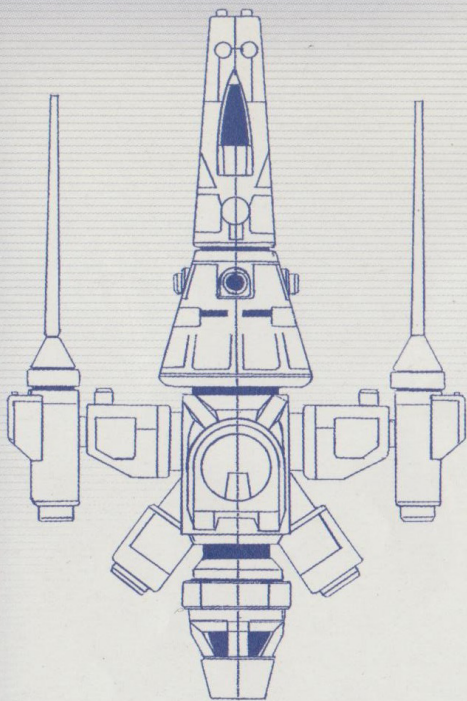
Originally, space observatory is sapce department's main business, they imported the technology of spacecraft development from civils, private enterprises, mastered the technquie after 8 months, a spacecraft "Pixfar mark 1" developed. developed by "Gaikaniz Firearms" the engine was made by "Dromatic Electronic Masters". Hence the archetype of space fighters will be soon fully developed.



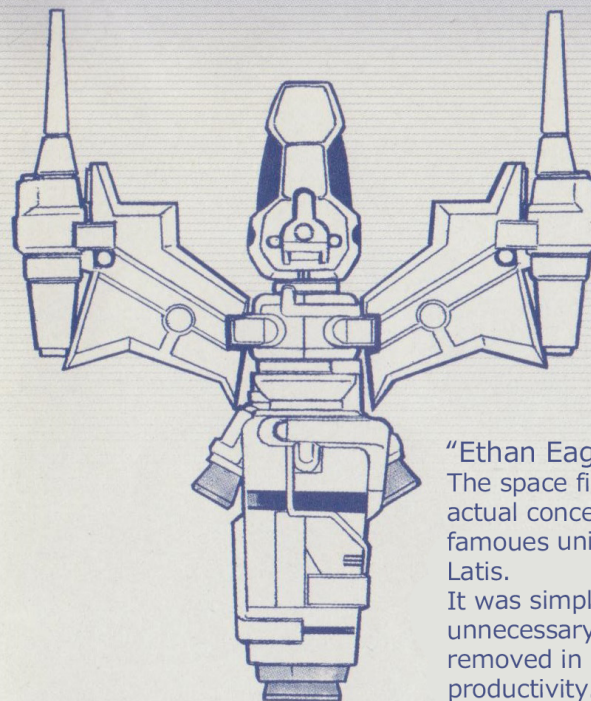
The archetype of Gradius's space fighter was "Pixfar Mark 1", equipped with a high energy laser generator at the nose.

It also equipped with 2 huge round rockets, the surface was built with laser resistant block, most of it's mass was covered with 60% of solid fuel.

2 Space battle begins



An concept of a space fighter which suggested by "Gradius cosmic armment develop department". Total length is 23 M, equipped with a rocket with multiple engine. The power unit at the front was isolated with the pilot seat, equipped with 2 long laser launch pods, 2 laser cannon at the nose.



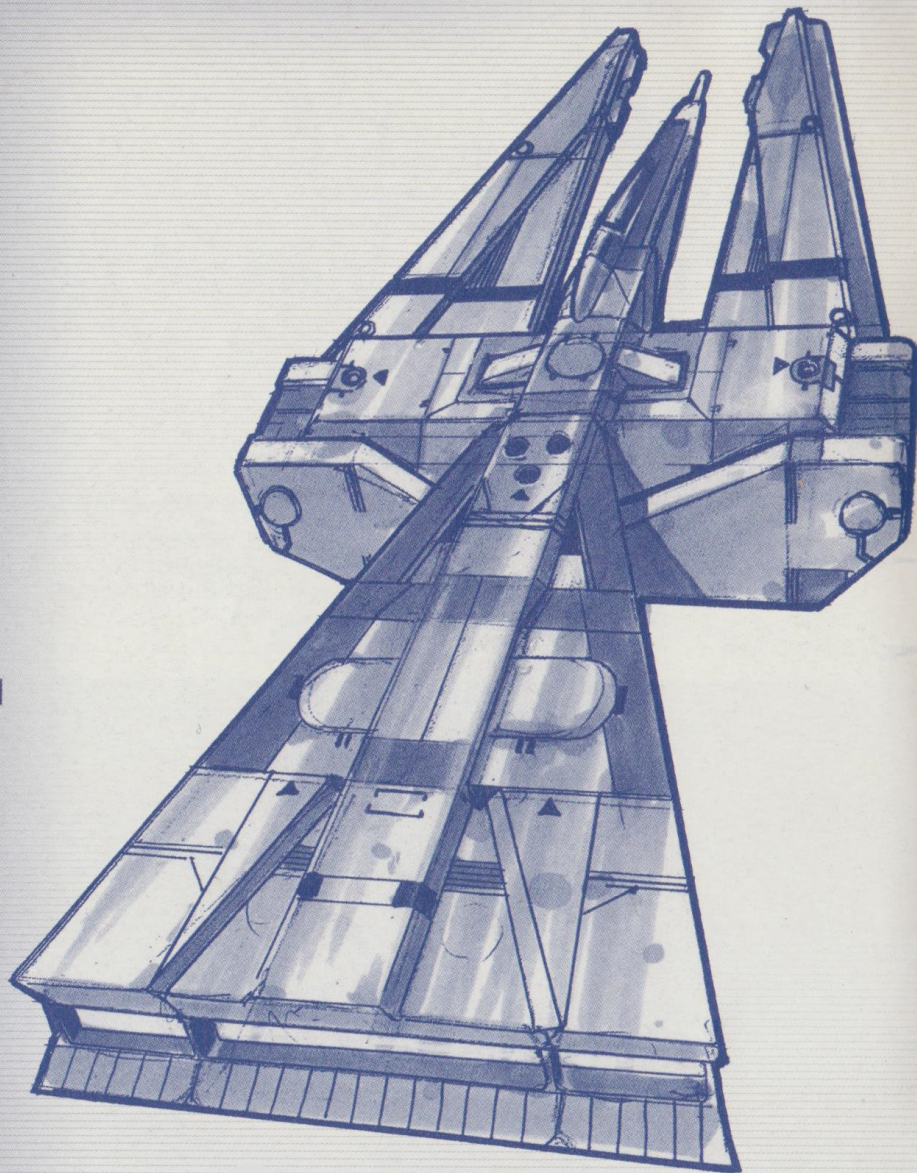
"Ethan Eagle mark4/D"
The space fighter which proven the actual concept is success, it is a famous unit during the battle to Latis. It was simplified as most unnecessary components were removed in order to keep the great productivity.

Cosmic Advanced calendar Year 0012 January, the ownership of the "Boswell" between 2 planets still not finished yet, both 2 governments which biologically from the same species had a extremely clamed sides, in this war between 2 civilizations, the limitation of Latis positioned as a constant war. The cosmic weapon development group from Gradius Space department soon setup a spacecraft develop department, thus "Cosmic army" formed. "Cosmic weapon development group" started to construct the concept of space fighter, attacker and battleships, etc. The published model of the spacecrafts soon gathered with complex technology from several industrial companies reported had to engaged to find many revolutionary solution. "Buttraf Archives" is a spaceship engine develop supplier, with other associated companies help, a concept of fighter "Ethan Eagle mark4/D" was born. In order to produce successfully, they prefer to make the craft as simple as can be easy to produce, with it does not have a frame, so all the armaments and cockpits can be separated. It also equipped with 2 powerful laser cannon on side wings, its advanced technology and mobility shows in both gravity interference areas like satellites and low gravity areas, it is a masterpiece during the early war.

"Argeiam Wolf" opens a full-fledged battle which enemy formations incised as captain and spreads the enemy with speed, seek and destroy them. The G series refers to the concepts which also similar to "Ethan Eagle" and others, its power noticed super aces with the best result as shoot down 168 enemy crafts and become famous, it produced totally 12000 units during the war at 4 years that convey the excellence to the future generations.



"Algeiam Wolf G/103"
A space fighter specified for serious dog fight which produced during the war to Latis. Equipped with high-power rocket engine with a individual battery pack for laser gun, it had helped archive the know-how of space wars.



Next gen-main prtotype fighter
"Stardrox mark1 TX"

A well developed space fighter for "Bacterian war". Equipped with most required things which increses performances,it is a gaint craft with total 28 M long,equipped with the latest developed nuclear fusion engine,it's mobility incresed so much.The high pulse laser gun"Wizark" is thpoint makes it being unique(Later was transplant to later version of mass produced vic vipers)

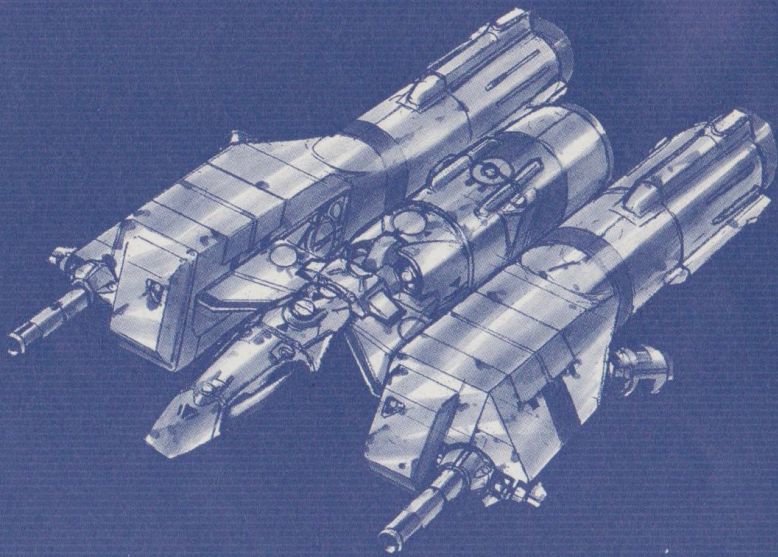
In the first place,"Bacterian" was the threat of that appears as an enemy in the Gradius series that caused the birth of the super space fighter Vic Viper. After fighting for Poswell's territorial power over the satellite "Poswell", he fought against the bacteriologists in a joint front with the planet Ratis, which signed a mutual security agreement and a trade treaty, but the first movement of the Ratis Defense Space Force unit was annihilated as a result of the battle with the Bacterian Fighter Corps. As a result, the Gradius-Ratis co-op Space Forces, which received an impact, suddenly began to develop a space fighter (Hyper space fighter) that surpasses conventional performance.

Gradius Space Force commissioned to develop the next major fighter. It was presented to a private company as an order from the weapon development department of the newly created Gradius Space Defense Department and the interstellar security department. The name of the development code is "mission · DDD", and it is required to be a space fighter aircraft that emphasizes development, production and demand capability in a short period of time. The specifications for the request are as follows.

Single seat single shot (1 pilot, 1 engine)
Less than 400,000 used parts (The final mass production aircraft strictly adheres to this, except the main power unit)
Maximum length: 20m or less
Maintenance skill level: B or less.
First battle speed Mach 122 or more (1.4 times or more of enemy fighters)
More than 12 hours of fighting time
Equipment of Anti - G device
Load control system with other target simultaneous processing capability
Kobanite alloy is used for 80% on the body surface.
Equipped with long range optical weapons. Fracture potential D class group 1
Long range physical bullet loading bay × 9?
Equipped with an energy shield that can withstand crushing potential D class (over 106 megagals output)
Adopt biomatrix for pilot matching (use arterial matching and Russell matching)

The above request content has become a request for performance far from the space fighters of the past, but the ground is the result of seeking the performance that can defeat the main battle of Bacterian.

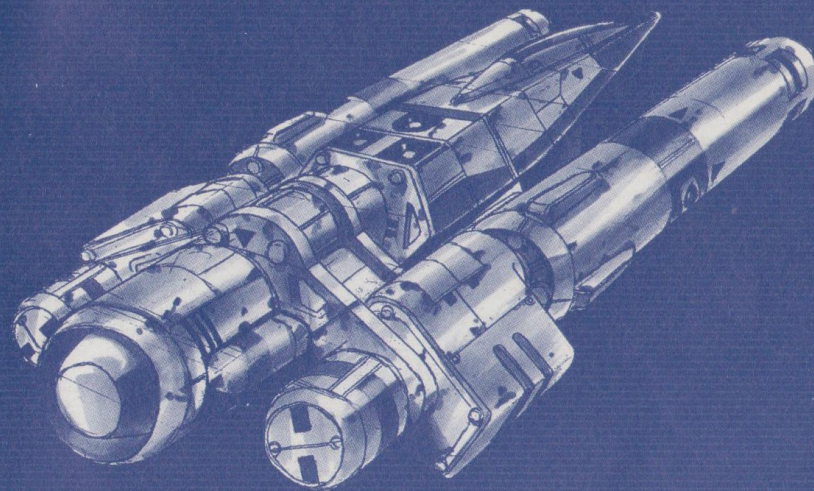
The first step in the development plan was from Geikanix Fire Arms, a long-established military industry that had been making weapons since the era of the large-scale guns with the support from government. In response to the order, focusing on productivity and structural strength, they developed an interceptor fighter "Stardrox Mk1 · TX" equipped with the latest fusion engine. The powerful energy cannon "Wizzark" laid out at the nose is capable of adjusting not only anti-warfare but also the output, and if it is maximized, it will be a powerful weapon that capable of giving a fatal strike to a battleship. However, it was found that the large-sized airframe of 28 m in simulation had both difficulty in turning and maneuverability, and it was not possible to utilize proud high-power energy weapons. You will see the glaring eye of defeated in the primary screening. However, only the Wizard will not be wasted and will be adopted in the later Viper series.



"Twindee mark 2 TX prototype"

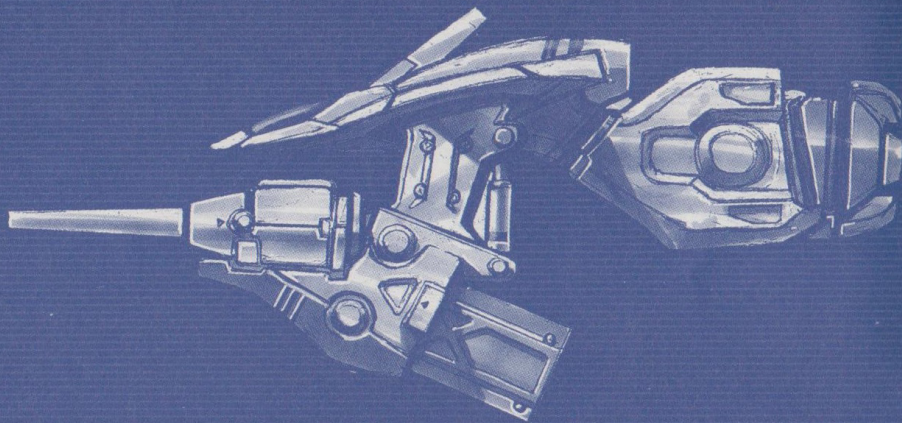
A prototype space fighter developed by the experienced "Buttaraf Archives".

It equipped with 2 strong nuclear fusion engine, 2 laser guns connected directly to the engine, the center-back of the craft have unique weapon racks, make it's appearance looks special. It later developed as an long range attacker by it's satisfied performance of the engine, however the overall performance need improved.



"Mad Striker D mark 3 prototype"

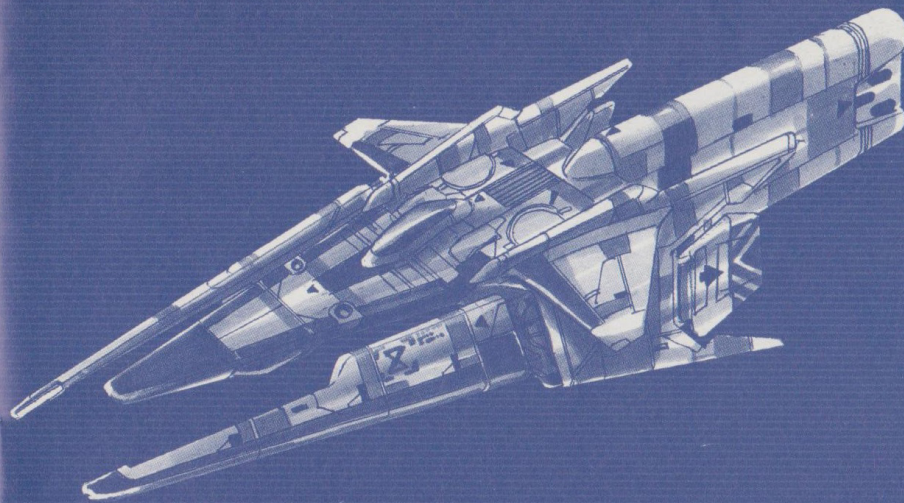
Developed by "Demonic Kanone Inc.", equipped with 2 gaint laser gun which originally for it's destoryers, aimed to firepower as the first priority. Sadly, even it have the best firepower, it was still be rejected by lacks of potential, the unit 2 which planned were also dropped.



"Mine Dragoon mark1 TX prototype"

An prototype space fighter developed by the company which held the most advanced robot technology - "Dock&Rising Robot corp".

It's both side equipped with laser guns and batteries. By the power of the adjustable rocket engine, makes it's search and capture function more powerful in 3 demensions mobility. However it's complexity of contruction and maintenance make it hard to adopt it, it had been rejected sadly.



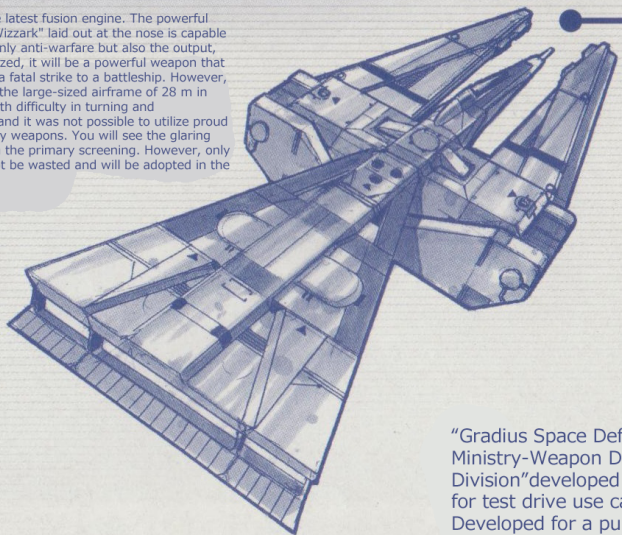
"Dark Viper E mark 1 prototype"

This the the last entry, developed by "Kudick Lancer & Shield Co. Ltd.". It aims to specialize the performace at enemy craft combat situations, so the firepower and mobility isn't enough! It will be expected to be improven the mobility. Thus, the second unit was asked to be produce.

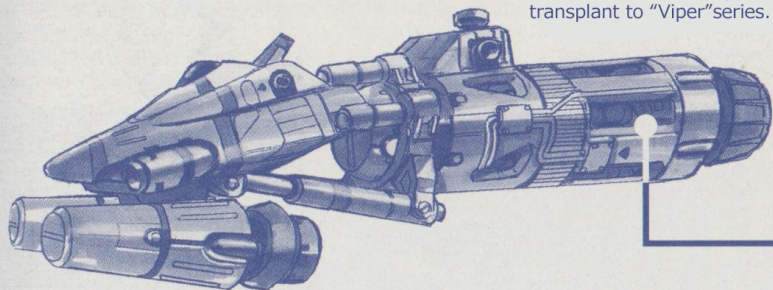
4 Prototype mass produce fighter-"Star Viper AX Mark 1"

"Stardrox Mark1 TX prototype"

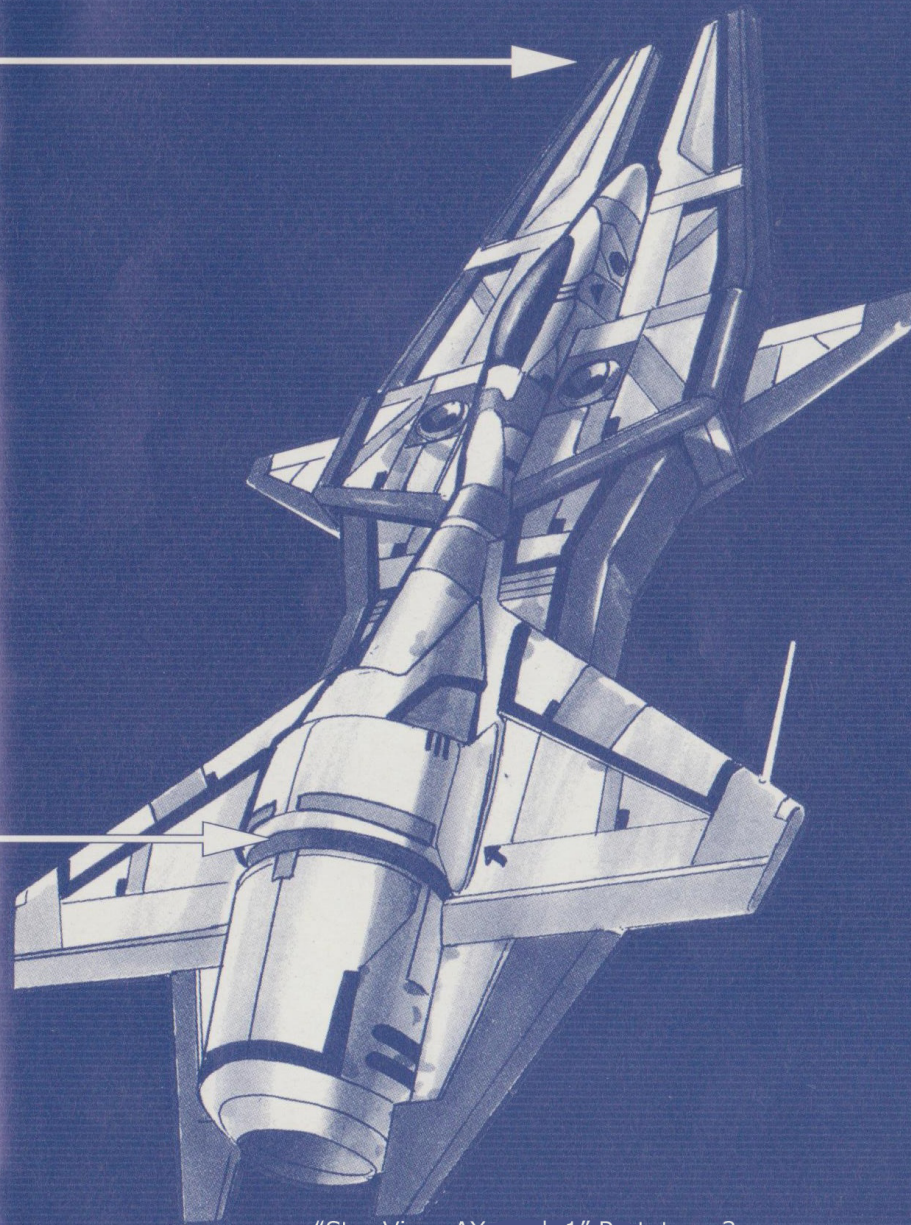
equipped with the latest fusion engine. The powerful energy cannon "Wizzark" laid out at the nose is capable of adjusting not only anti-warfare but also the output, and if it is maximized, it will be a powerful weapon that capable of giving a fatal strike to a battleship. However, it was found that the large-sized airframe of 28 m in simulation had both difficulty in turning and maneuverability, and it was not possible to utilize proud high-power energy weapons. You will see the glaring eye of defeated in the primary screening. However, only the Wizzard will not be wasted and will be adopted in the later Viper series.



"Gradius Space Defence Ministry-Weapon Development Division" developed with "Wreck Engine" for test drive use carft-"Raizet 5" Developed for a purpose to reduce a half size of the "Wreck Engine" that will soon transplant to "Viper" series.



As the Dark Viper E · Mk 1 prototype becomes a leading candidate for the next major fighter aircraft, Geikanix Fire Arms Co., Ltd. will make Kudick Lancer & Co., Ltd. to downsize and install its core technology "Wizzark" · Proposed to Shields. At the same time, it was found that the wreck engine unit "Stardom 4000" prototyped by the weapons development department of the Gradius Space Defense Department had an unexpected future potential, and a proposal was made to miniaturize it and mount it for a fighter plane. As a result, Gaikanix Fire Arms is in charge of the military relationship, and Gradius Space Defense Ministry is in charge of the output relationship. The second prototype "Dark Viper F Mk 2" manufactured by Kudick Lancer & Seals Co., Ltd. acquired this two major technologies, developed into a mass production examination prototype "Star Viper AX Mk 1", and produced 3 machines It was done. This Star Viper AX Mk1 is the airframe that became the starting point of the later Viper series.



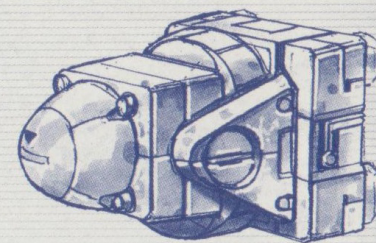
"Star Viper AX mark 1" Prototype 3
Equipped with strong firearm "Wizark" in the nose, alongside with the test type "Wreck Engine" Dive J 104XX.
Full length is 27 M, still needs to be more small, compact size, but this lead as a starting point of the "Viper" series.



After the success of the minimizing the mass produce trial prototype "TX-006", got instantly receive assistance from the Gradius Ministry of Space Defence, within several enemy fighter miraculously captured without damaging it (Codename: Butterfly). The simulation was repeated from day to day. Soon a new power unit had been developed from the ministry. Equipped with the "Stardam 4000 MK3-Wreaklized Master Reactor". It passed the requirement from the ministry which within its highly potential for further development.

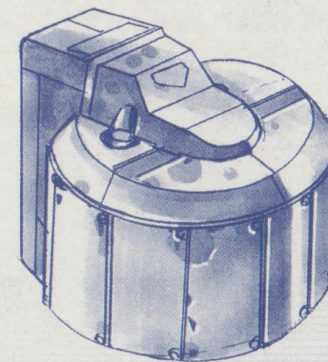
Meanwhile, a huge challenge for Gradius is to against the unique wavy formation attacks from the bacterians, in order to solve this problem, building an possible and efficiently intercept plan is needed. In order to success, the device have to equipped with ability to doing attack, lock on target and evasion at the same time, a new weapon management system - "Veda" was built, by the Spaceship laser rangefinder development company - "Dominique Rare Wartoise". It can trace the enemy's trajectory. "TX-006" also equipped with the "Doppler Reactive Rader" and combines with the "Future position calculation device-Zekk". And this technology makes the Viper series are decided to go with several more advanced technologies.

The mass produce trial prototype "TX-006" shows its great compatibility to combat with Bacterian space fighters during the simulation, within its swiftness mobility in asteroid belts. Resulting with reduction of the total number of parts and ready to start being mass producing.



Doppler Reactive Rader

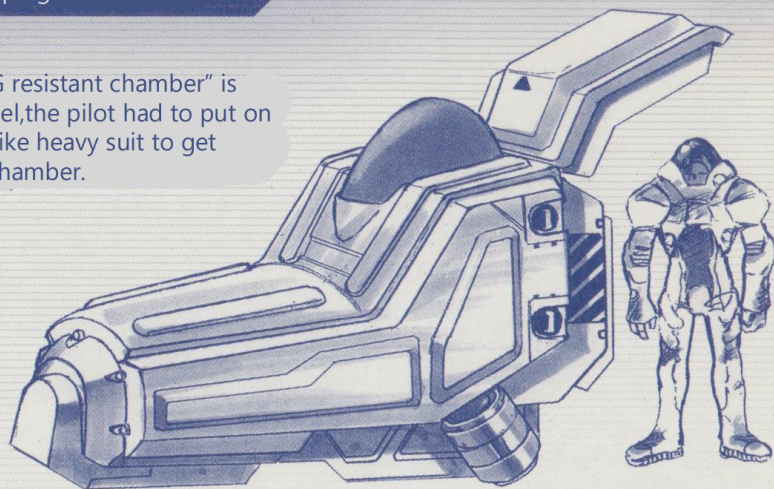
An epoch-making rader that installed inside the head of viper, mounted with trace tracker. Can track enemy's movements.



Future position calculator-Veda

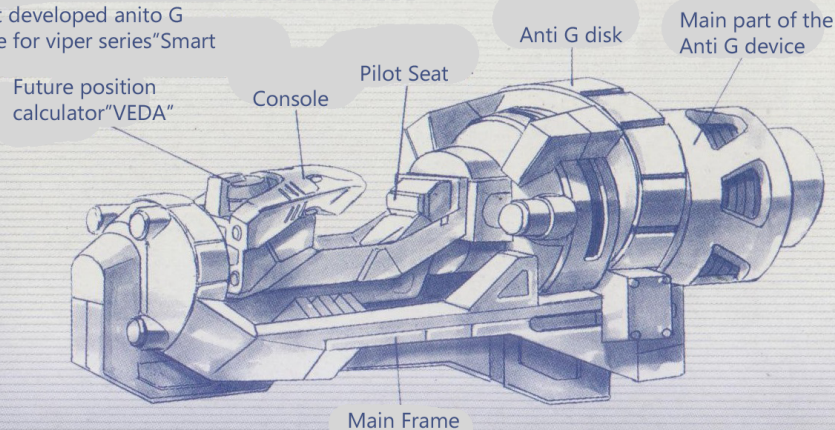
An innovative device installed inside the viper's cockpit console. Its main purpose is to calculate the enemy's future position within high accuracy. It also prevents the technology leak to the enemy by melt itself in high temperature after when the craft was damaged or the pilot was killed.

The early "G resistant chamber" is filled with gel, the pilot had to put on a frogman like heavy suit to get inside the chamber.



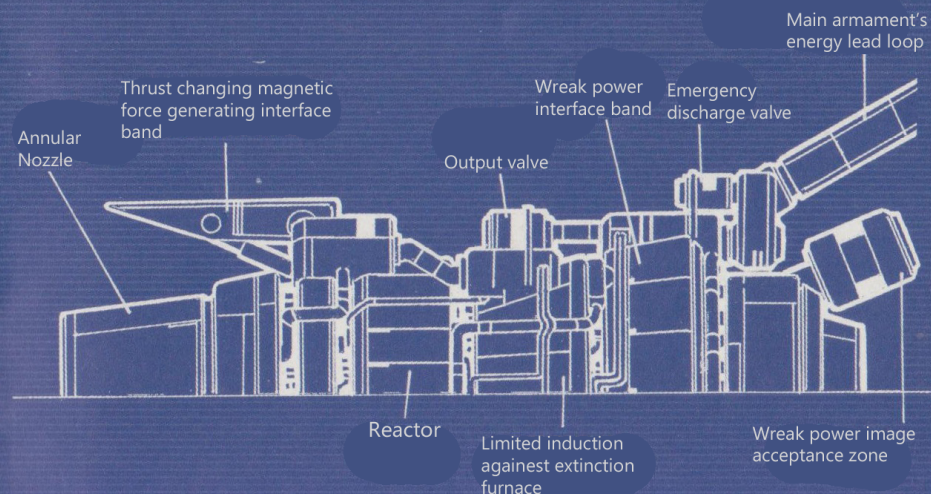
The remaining issue was the residence of the cockpit. Since the first battle speed is at least 100 times the speed of sound, the inside of the cockpit of a manned space fighter is subjected to unbelievable acceleration / deceleration pressure "G". The Viper series is able to withstand the pressure of 400 G even with the initial prototype, but is not very good for live pilots. Even when wearing a G-resistant suit, it could withstand the pressure of at most 10 G. Therefore, the G eraser "G eater" has been urgently developed. In the early twin-G chamber, the pilot wore heavy equipment that was larger than space suits, filled the lungs with liquid, packed gel that synchronized with pressure changes and gelled in the cockpit, and the pilot was there. It was described as a "preserved spear" because it was a very cumbersome means of diving and a burden on the pilot that would not allow a decent maneuver. Therefore, a request was made by the Ministry of Space Defense to use a device to reduce or eliminate G on a spacecraft ship bridge and to reduce the size to the size of the cockpit of a space fighter, and the "Battle · Jointly developed by Order Tamdesk Co., Ltd. and the Ministry of Space Defense, it has created the revolutionary G-Eatter S101 Smart Boat with an integrated G-Erase disc built-in cockpit. Fix the G absorbing element "Freddy" to the board, and the system to generate and eliminate G in the infinite 4 fields forward generated by rotating at high speed succeeds in the Viper series, and other fighter planes and other fighters thereafter. It will be widely used for attack aircraft, and pilots can now be lightly equipped.

Latest developed anti G device for viper series "Smart Pod"



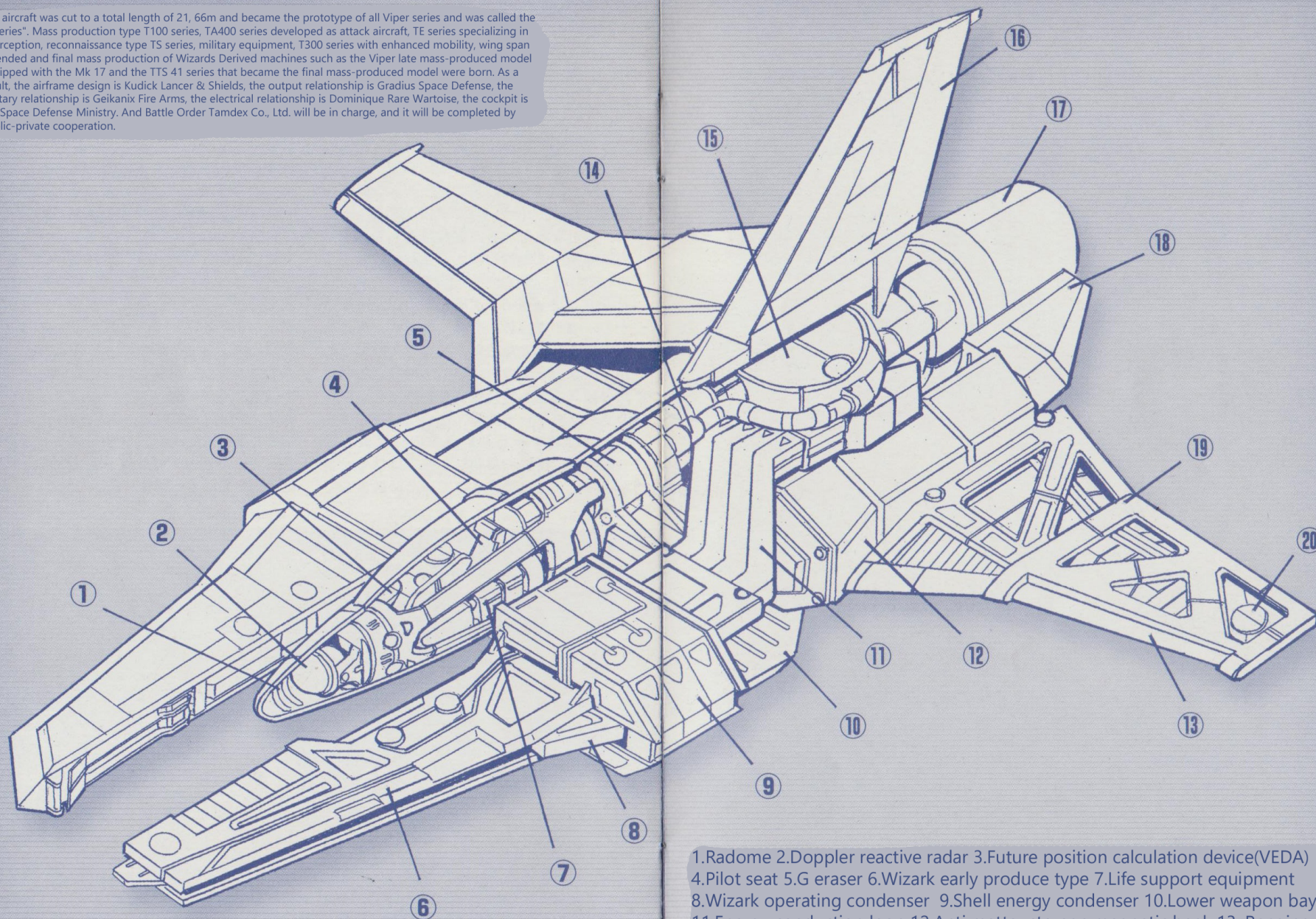
The "Stardom 4000" developed by the ministry had proven the greatest characteristic of the "Wreak power" from the Wreaks to drive the boost system of the spaceships, after few years of researches, they found that the Wreaks are some space adapted species that flew to Planet Gradius before history, this means they are evolved to get used to space voyages, within the best spatial recognition capabilities, future prediction, remote viewing capabilities, etc. The Wreaks have a driven force to power an unknown eternal engine for space navigation. The thrust are generated by the anti matter annihilation unit, within the amplified "Wreak power", the power unit was successfully developed in the past, and may have been produced. According to the chief of the technical management department: "this super science had once existed that none navigators can see the future, but some Wreak borrowed the thrust energy from other space. They may be accidentally travelled to Planet Gradius after a disaster or sucked into a worm hole". The core of the "limited induction against extinction reactor" is from an anti matter engine developed as the main engine for space fighters and covered with a "Wreak power interference zone", results in a 3.4 times maximum thrust output then before. However, the control unit wasn't by the "field recognition and operation capability" from the Wreak power. Sadly this magnificent system can't be adapted to any Wreaks, as it requires the characteristics that can be manifested by the appropriate capacity development.

Early version of the Wreak engine "Stardom 4000 mk3" (Wreak Master Reactor)



8 The perspective of mass produce unit 1 "Vic Viper"

The aircraft was cut to a total length of 21,66m and became the prototype of all Viper series and was called the "T series". Mass production type T100 series, TA400 series developed as attack aircraft, TE series specializing in interception, reconnaissance type TS series, military equipment, T300 series with enhanced mobility, wing span extended and final mass production of Wizards Derived machines such as the Viper late mass-produced model equipped with the Mk 17 and the TTS 41 series that became the final mass-produced model were born. As a result, the airframe design is Kudick Lancer & Shields, the output relationship is Gradius Space Defense, the military relationship is Geikanix Fire Arms, the electrical relationship is Dominique Rare Wartoise, the cockpit is the Space Defense Ministry. And Battle Order Tamdex Co., Ltd. will be in charge, and it will be completed by public-private cooperation.



- 1.Radome 2.Doppler reactive radar 3.Future position calculation device(VEDA)
- 4.Pilot seat 5.G eraser 6.Wizark early produce type 7.Life support equipment
- 8.Wizark operating condenser 9.Shell energy condenser 10.Lower weapon bay
- 11.Energy conduction loop 12.Anti matter storage magnetic bank 13. Ranging sensor
- 14.Energy loop to G eraser 15. Battery for generating energy shield 16. Subspace communication ANT
17. Annular nozzle 18.Magnetic change nozzle 19. Energy shield generator for anti guided weapons
- 20.Enemy-ally identification signal transmitter

9 Arms of Vic Viper



The mass-produced Vic Viper was immediately deployed into practice. Then, as the war outcome was raised, each military company proposed and developed additional weapons for the Viper. They were mainly equipped with the ability to increase Viper's attack power and long-range attacks, aiming to raise Viper's combat ability. Here we introduce the main additional weapons.

1. Tugbird super long distance cruise missile

A cruise missile that can accelerate to sublight speed. Maximum range 6 million km. Equipped with anti-proton warheads or annihilated warheads. It is possible to destroy a battleship with one blow.

2. Beam trace afterimage projector

An electronic device that projects an aircraft shadow similar to a main aircraft (Viper) on an enemy Doppler radar and deceives the enemy.

3. Option remote guidance bullet

Independent mobile ammunition to attack and defend your aircraft.

4. Curved space detection radar

A radar that senses distortion of space that occurs when warping out. It has the ability to detect space traps from 400,000 kilometers away.

5. Stomak ultra-long-distance unmanned reconnaissance aircraft

Unmanned reconnaissance aircraft with a range of 8 million km. It is the center of the search system.

6. Anti-spacecraft Beam trace Diffusion Missile Pod

Spread over 400,000 small hard bullets extensively, penetrate and destroy enemy aircraft.

7. Beam trace space curved bullet

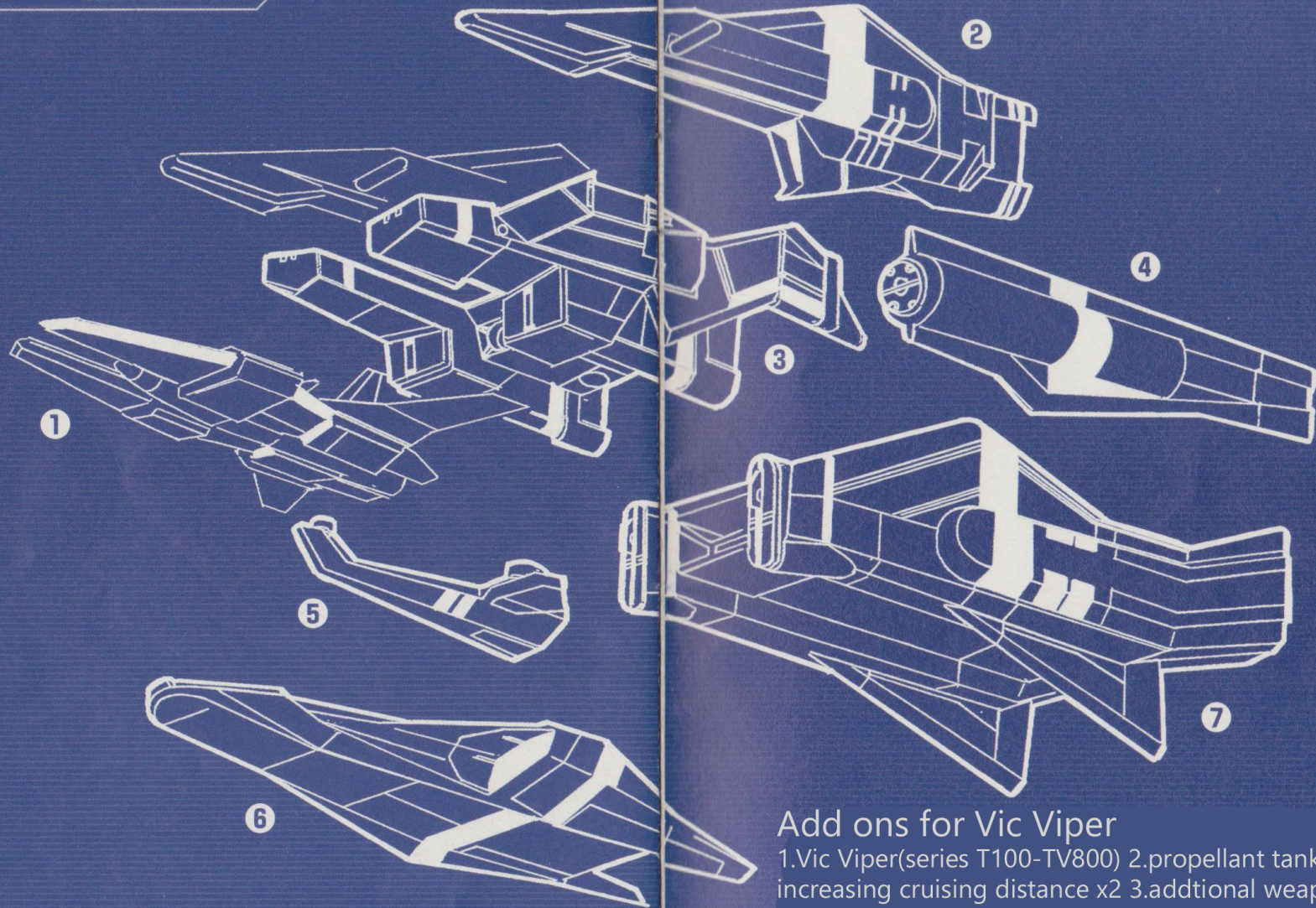
A special warhead that can generate small singularities. It is possible to destroy ships in high speed navigation.

8. Raydock Super Cannon

An open weapon that fires 3000 hard bombs per minute. In short, it is a kind of machine gun.

9. Beam trace missile type - L

Sub-light missile capable of mounting a large number of warheads.



Add ons for Vic Viper

1. Vic Viper (series T100-TV800)
2. propellant tank for increasing cruising distance x2
3. additional weapon deck
4. propellant tank for warp engine
5. lower fixing rod
6. additional propellant tank for return
7. warp engine unit

These additional armaments were later upgraded and equipped with fighters and attack aircraft other than Viper, and played an active part in the anti-bacterial war. Kudick Lancer & Shields, a Viper's developer, has proposed a "Function expansion plan" for Viper series T100 to TV 800 for attack aircraft, ranger, and reconnaissance aircraft types. Development has been promoted by technical cooperation of many military companies, and an additional equipment system has been created, which can strengthen the fighting ability and increase the range.

At first, by adding a propellant tank that increases the cruising distance, and by mounting a huge weapon rack like a large attack aircraft, it functions as a long-range attack aircraft, and the propellant tank is thrown away after use. It was a dog fight to return. In addition, the plan jumped and became ambitious to equip the warp engine unit and add the function as an ultra-long-range attack aircraft. However, as a result of repeated tests, the long battle was extremely burdensome for the pilot, and there was a risk of losing concentration during engagement with the enemy. A double-seat long-haul viper will be designed and designed with two pilots, one in charge and the leak pilot in charge of gunner, as a solution.

11 Successors of Vic Viper



With the great success of the Viper series, Kudick Lancer & Shields, which was no more than just a part manufacturer, quickly became a warrior in the military industry and became a prominent fighter manufacturer. During the height of the war, Viper's production could not catch up, and 2/3 out of the total number of 26,200 machines were enough to make license production available to other companies. However, even after the Silent Nightmare incident (the first Metalion Defense Battle), Kudick Lancer & Shields is busy with the production of Viper and is late for developing the successor aircraft.

On the other hand, other companies have started to develop the next major fighter that will be the successor to the Viper series. Here, we introduce the prototype of the next major fighter aircraft manufactured by each company.

1. Liberator Small Fighter (produced by Buttaraf Archives)

A spacecraft engine maker, Buttaraf Archives, Inc. presented a Liberator small fighter, a fighter specialized in one-off maneuvers.

2. Lancer Interceptor (made by Geikanix Fire Arms)

Geikanix Fire Arms, a company that developed the high-power energy canon "Vizzark", presented a Lancer interceptor. The aircraft is based on an attack aircraft equipped with two long-range lasers.

3. Club 2 Interceptor (manufactured by Gradius Space Defense Ministry)

The Gradius Space Defense Ministry has presented an airframe called the Club 2 Interceptor, which is willing to make the airframe variable, open and emit high power beams at the time of an attack.

5. Fire Road 1 (made by Doromatic Electric Masters)

Fire Road 1, a large interceptor presented by Doromatic Electric Masters, a long-established airline company that developed the engine of the first full-scale space fighter "Bixsfa Mk 1" in Gradius, is a long long ship for ships. Despite being heavily armed with the Range and Laser Cannon, the aircraft boasts high speed and has a characteristic that it is not captured by the enemy Doppler radar.

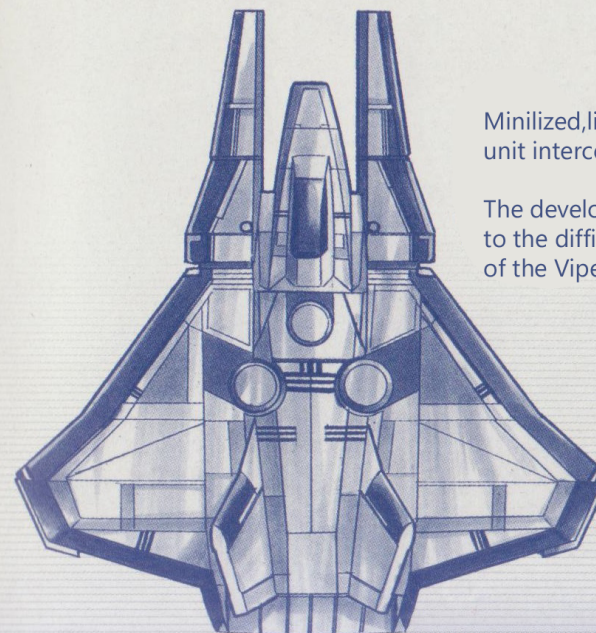
6. Super Viper 03 (manufactured by Kudick Lancer & Shields)

The Super Viper 03 presented by Kudick Lancer & Shields, the maker that created the salvage fighter "Bic Viper" that protected the planet Gradius and Metallion star system, was full of attractive specs, but it was mentioned above. As I said, I was busy with mass production of Viper and I was late for competition for the development of the succeeding machine, and it was finally to present a mock-up.

4/7. Flare 2 / Damoz 4 (made by Demetrickson Kanone)

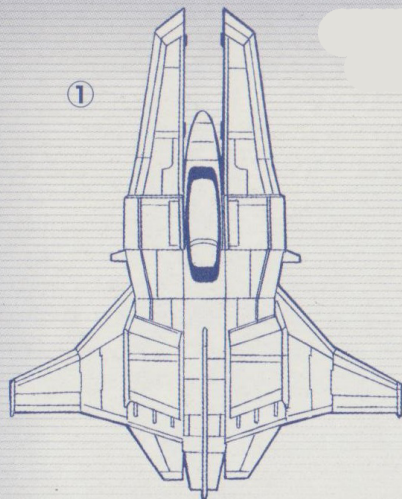
Demetrixon Kanone, a manufacturer of cannons for both ships, is not an airframe equipped with a large caliber firearm that is unusually unique, but a flare aimed at the total strength of force in small size and mass production referring to the tactics of bacterin. Presented 2 and 4 damoz.

However, all of the above prototypes were actually "provisional prototypes", which were modified by modifying existing fighters, interceptors and attack aircraft. Under the circumstances, a complete mass production prototype was presented by a missile armored manufacturer "Sims Strike Delivery," which had licensed Viper under contract with Kudick Lancer & Shields during the War against Bacteria. Company. Although the company had been scolded in the military industry as "a collection of existing technologies", it completed the highly productive and balanced "Metallion X 01 / B" prototype interceptor. Since the Vic Viper TTS 41, which is the final mass production type of Viper, it has been expected as a successor to replace the Viper series, which can no longer expect room for performance improvement.

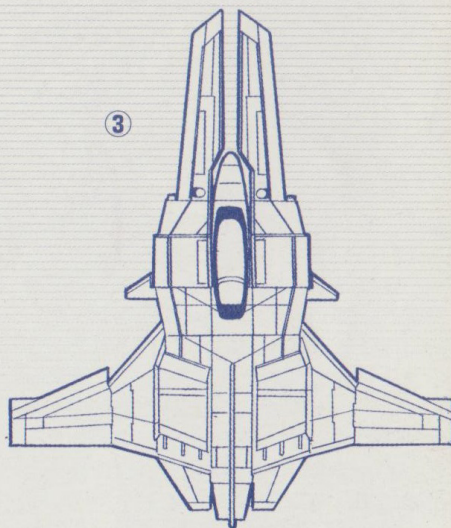


Minilized, lightweight Wreak power unit interceptor "Metallion X01/B"

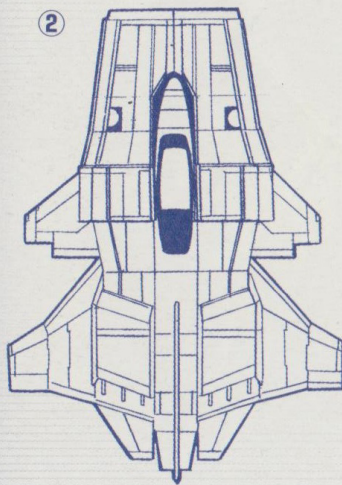
The development was delayed due to the difficulty to take the position of the Viper series.



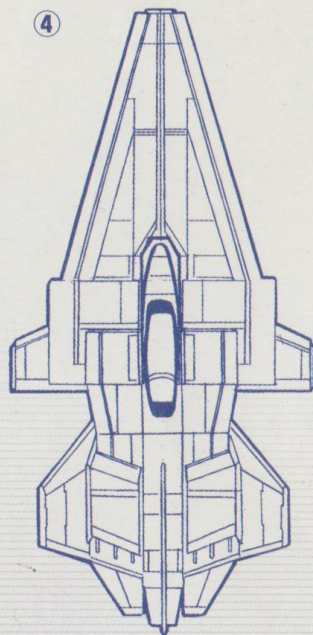
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1. Mass produce Vic Viper

The most produced, standard and exhausted type, also becomes the base of other Viper series, produced 91 units in total production and as the defender of the Metalion system.

2. Intercept type Vic Viper

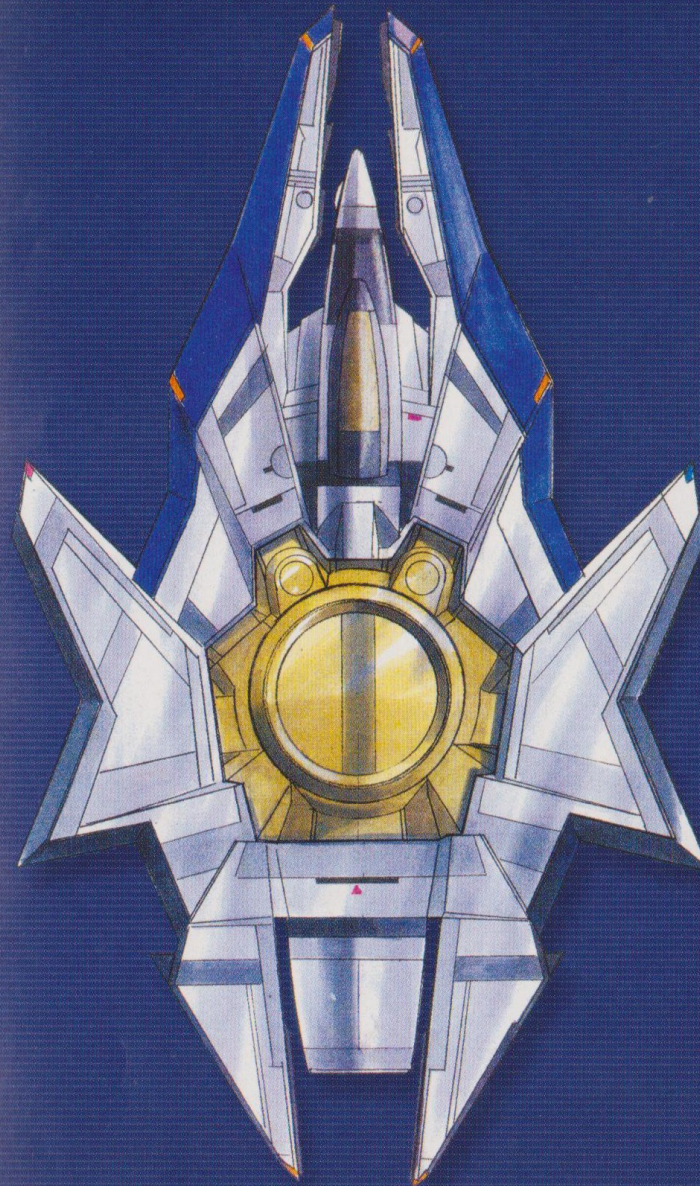
Intercept specialized TE series, equipped with improved shooting range, rapid firing Vizark cannon MK8 on the nose, a unit within improved turning power and cruising range.

3. Late mass produced type Vic Viper
The unit with extended ranging, enemy seeking side wing, equipped with the final version of Vizark cannon MK17. Makes it become the perfectly balanced masterpiece, produced less than about 6% in total

4. Vic Viper long range type

The super long distance sniping type SL series, only 6 units were produced during the war.

The late elites which can destroy the enemy's mothership with one hit.



Kuedick Lancer & Shields, which has been seized as the main fighter in Metallion, produces a prototype "Victory Viper XX03" that is betting on company luck and challenging development. The details of the spec have not been clarified yet.